

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 120093

42

ORIGIN NEA-04

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /005 R

66602

DRAFTED BY: NEA/ EGY: GNANDERSON

APPROVED BY: NEA/ EGY: GNANDERSON

----- 008118

R 201714 Z JUN 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 120093

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE, DIA, INFO AMMAN, JERUSALEM,  
JIDDA, KUWAIT, LONDON, MOSCOW, PARIS, TEHRAN, TEL AVIV,  
USUN, USCINCEUR, JUNE 19, FROM BEIRUT RPTD TO YOU:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 7275

DEPT PASS USINT CAIRO

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR SY IS LE

SUBJ: SYRIAN SITUATION

REF: BEIRUT 7260

1. COUNSELLOR OF YUGOSLAV EMBASSY HERE DISCUSSED SYRIAN  
SITUATION WITH EMBOFF JUNE 19. HE ADMITTED THAT SARG BEHAVIOUR  
GIVES AMPLE GROUNDS FOR CONCERN, BASED ON INFO RECEIVED FROM  
YUGOSLAV EMBASSY DAMASCUS. WHEREAS EGYPTIAN BEHAVIOUR  
HAS BEEN REASONABLE THUS FAR AND FAIRLY PREDICTABLE, DESPITE  
SOME BELLICOSE STATEMENTS, SARG TENDS TO BE TOO ERRATIC.  
YUGOSLAVS BELIEVE THAT SARG IS TRULY AFRAID OF ATTACK BY  
ISRAEL. IN ADDITION TO MANY STATEMENTS WARNING OF SUCH  
ATTACK, WHICH SERVE PROPAGANDA PURPOSE AS WELL AS EXPRESSING  
REAL APPREHENSION, SYRIAN MILITARY HAS VIRTUALLY DOUBLED  
ITS DEFENSIVE STRENGTH BETWEEN DAMASCUS AND GOLAN AND EVEN  
TOWARD LEBANESE BORDER SINCE IDF COULD CONDUCT FLANKING  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 120093

ATTACK THROUGH LEBANON. YUGOSLAVS DO NOT RPT NOT SEE SARG AS DELIBERATELY INITIATING HOSTILITIES NOR DESIRING THEM BUT SARG IS SUFFICIENTLY ERRATIC, GIVEN ITS PRESENT INTERNAL POLITICAL TROUBLES AND HEIGHTENED TENSIONS IN AREA, THAT THE UNEXPECTED COULD HAPPEN.

2. CONCERNING SARG ATTITUDE TOWARD LEBANON, YUGOSLAV COUNSELLOR BELIEVES THERE ARE FOUR FUNDAMENTAL REASONS FOR SYRIAN ATTITUDE: ( A) DESIRE OBTAIN POSITION OF DOMINANCE OVER ENTIRE FEDAYEEN MOVEMENT; ( B) DESIRE INCREASE SYRIAN INFLUENCE IN LEBANON, INSIDE/ AND OUTSIDE GOL; ( C) DESIRE SEE SYRIAN PORTS REPLACE BEIRUT AS MAIN ENTREPOT FOR TRANSIT TRADE BETWEEN MEDITERRANEAN AND ARAB EAST; ( D) PROVIDE SAFETY VALVE FOR SOME OF OPPOSITION PRESSURES AGAINST SARG FOR NOT BEING SUFFICIENTLY RESPONSIVE TO NEEDS OF SYRIAN SUNNIS AND OF FEDAYEEN IN SYRIA. HOUGHTON UNQUOTE. ROGERS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNNNMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 JUN 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973STATE120093  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** NEA/ EGY: GNANDERSON  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** SECSTATE WASHDC  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730625/aaaajjge.tel  
**Line Count:** 82  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ORIGIN NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 73 BEIRUT 7260  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** morefirh  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 SEP 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <26-Sep-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <04-Jan-2002 by morefirh>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980218  
**Subject:** SYRIAN SITUATION  
**TAGS:** PFOR, IS, LE, SY, n/a  
**To:** CAIRO  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005